

PREVIEW

For Cecily Smithwick and the East Coker W.I.

THE OXEN

A carol for women's voices and piano

Thomas Hardy

BENJAMIN BRITTEN

SOPRANOS & ALTOSS

Slowly moving (♩ = c. 60) unis. *p* clearly

PIANO

p always smooth

Chorus Eve, and twelve of the clock.

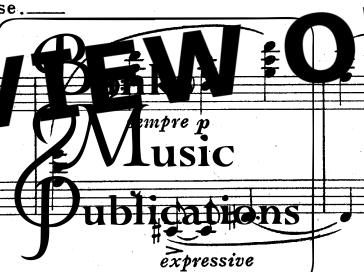
PREVIEW ONLY

"Now they are all— on their knees," An old man said as he lay in a flow'r By the

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em-bers in hearth-side ease.—

p pic-tured—



The Oxen is taken from *The Collected Poems of Thomas Hardy* by permission of the Trustees of the Hardy Estate, The Macmillan Company of Canada Ltd., and Macmillan & Co. Ltd. London.

pp a tempo

ox-en kneel," I should go

pp

ox-en kneel," I should go

p

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p

expressive

unis.

with him in the gloom, —

He in the night

dim.

PREVIEW ONLY

pp

so.

PREVIEW ONLY

cresc.

Music Publications

expressive

pp